

AN AUSPICIOUS ANNIVERSARY

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the historic Battle of the Alamo—at which Jim Bowie gave his life along with nearly two hundred of his fellow "Texians."

When the Mexican General Santa Anna arrived with a force of 5,000 soldiers to retake San Antonio during the war for Texas' independence, this small group of heroes fortified itself in the Alamo—an old mission which was sometimes used as a fort.

Santa Anna laid siege to the Alamo on February 23, 1836. But the vastly outnumbered Texans—through sheer courage and will—held out for nearly two weeks, fighting valiantly to the very last man.

Soon, "Remember the Alamo!" became a ringing cry for independence. And on April 21, 1836, an expanded Texan force—under General Sam Houston—completely routed the Mexican Army, forcing Santa Anna to sign a treaty granting independence to Texas.

THE FRANKLIN MINT

FRANKLIN CENTER, PENNSYLVANIA 19091



The knife carried by the famous Western hero Jim Bowie is one of the most priceless relics of American history.

Now it has been re-created in authentic detail
—for the first time ever.



THE JIM BOWIE KNIFE

The very first authorized replica of the most famous blade in American history.

Available exclusively from The Franklin Mint.

An historic "first" for collectors—
to own, to display in your den or office and
to prize as a valued American heirloom.

Re-creation shown here actual size. Length: 13¾" Blade: High chromium stainless steel. Grip: Solid oak.

Please mail your order by November 20, 1986.

JIM BOWIE was one of the most colorful heroes of the American West. His courage, his spirit and his rugged individualism made him a legend in his own time. And his devotion to his countrymen was unfailing. Indeed, he gave his life for the land he loved at the Battle of the Alamo.

But the name of Jim Bowie is celebrated for another reason too. He was the originator of the most famous knife in American history—known far and wide as the "Bowie knife."

This is the knife Jim Bowie personally used as a frontiersman, gunfighter and patriot. The very same knife he carried with him at the Battle of the Alamo on that fateful day in 1836.

Now, to mark the 150th anniversary of that historic battle, The Jim Bowie Knife has been re-created in exacting detail—for the very first time. And you have the unprecedented opportunity to own this authentic replica to display in your home or office, and to keep as an heirloom.

**Re-created actual size—
with all the original markings**

By authorization of the owner of The Jim Bowie Knife, The Franklin Mint has been appointed to supervise the re-creation of this historic relic. And the Mint has taken steps to assure that every feature and detail of the knife is accurately replicated.

Because of its value, the original knife is kept in a vault at all times. But special arrangements were made to remove it temporarily so that detailed drawings and photographs could be made.

Then, the actual crafting of the knife began. The long blade was forged from a single piece of stainless steel. Special tools were used to *hand-cut* the



Custom-designed hardwood case, with lock and key, provided for display of The Jim Bowie Knife on wall, table or desktop.

tempered steel to the exact shape desired—and to create the serrations along the edge. Then the blade was carefully honed, calibrated precisely and polished by hand.

The crossguard, which protected the user, was shaped to match the design of the original. The grip was *hand-carved* in solid oak (specially selected for color and graining). The pommel and ring were crafted in stainless steel. Then each part was fitted together *by hand* to achieve a perfect joining with

the blade. (Even the steel pin that holds the handle to the grip was reproduced.)

In addition, the *unique markings* on the knife were replicated: the name "J. BOWIE" etched on the front of the blade. The initials "JB" on the underside identifying James Black, who forged the knife for Jim Bowie. And the distinctive acorn symbol which was Black's signature mark.

The result is an historically authentic, exacting replica of the original Bowie knife as it looked at the

time it was first used by Jim Bowie more than a century and a half ago.

Oak-finished hardwood case provided

So that the knife may be fully protected—and shown to best advantage in the home or office—a handsome display case has been custom-designed to house it. The oak-finished case is topped with an etched glass lid that makes it possible to view the knife without removing it.

The case also bears a lock and key for security purposes. And it is designed so that it may be placed on a table, sideboard or desktop—or conveniently hung on the wall. Wherever the knife is displayed, it is certain to be a focus of attention and admiration. For it is a highly dramatic piece—impressive for its size and craftsmanship.

The knife will be accompanied by a reference folder about the life of Jim Bowie and the legends surrounding him. A Certificate of Authenticity will also be provided, attesting to the historical accuracy of the replica and to its status as the *first* authorized re-creation of The Jim Bowie Knife.

Available only from The Franklin Mint

This authentic re-creation will not be sold in galleries or stores, nor will it be handled by antique dealers. It is being made available *exclusively* from The Franklin Mint, and *only* by direct order. The issue price is \$295, payable in monthly installments with no added charge for the display case.

Collectors who acquire The Jim Bowie Knife will own a work of historical significance and heirloom quality. Displayed in a library, den or office, this imported knife will be a proud possession—to be shown to visitors, admired and discussed.

To acquire The Jim Bowie Knife, please be sure to mail your authorization by November 20, 1986.

THE JIM BOWIE KNIFE

*The first authorized re-creation
of the most famous knife of
American history.*

ORDER FORM

Limit of one per collector.

Please enter your order by November 20, 1986.

The Franklin Mint
Franklin Center, Pennsylvania 19091

Please accept my order for The Jim Bowie Knife, to be handcrafted individually for me and sent to me in a custom-designed hardwood case for protection and display. I understand it will be accompanied by specially-written reference material, and a Certificate of Authenticity attesting to its historical accuracy and precision craftsmanship. The issue price is \$295.*

I need send no payment now. Please bill me \$59.* when the knife is ready to be sent to me, and the balance in four equal monthly installments of \$59.* each, after shipment. There is no added charge for the custom-designed hardwood display case.

*Plus my state sales tax
and a total of \$3. for shipping and handling.

Signature _____

ALL ORDERS ARE SUBJECT TO ACCEPTANCE.

02153 XM
COLLECTORS CORNER
701 ANACAPA STREET
SANTA BARBARA CA 93101



THE FRANKLIN MINT

They called it "the Arkansas toothpick."
But it became one of the most valuable treasures
of American history.

Dear Friend:

The world of collecting is an amazing place.

You just never know what's going to become a collector's treasure.

Take the old hunting knife Elisha Moore's family kept in the barn for years, gathering dust. Elisha's father used to reminisce about it all the time. About how an old Mexican farmer had given it to him to pay off a debt of \$5. And how this man said he'd found it at the Alamo on the day after the famous battle in 1836.

Elisha often told the story to his young son Bart. And Bart was fascinated. So much so that, years later, he remembered it -- and decided to search for clues to the true origin of the knife.

He read history books. He ordered scientific tests. He consulted authorities. And, after long and careful study, confirmed that this was the original Bowie knife.

Yes, the actual knife Jim Bowie carried with him
on his adventures in the Old West. The very
knife he had with him at the Alamo on that fate-
ful day 150 years ago!

Today, that old 'hunting' knife is a priceless relic of our country's past -- kept in a vault and taken out only on rare occasions for special exhibits.

Now here's some exciting news for you ...

You will be able to acquire an authentic re-creation of this historic knife to add to your personal collection. We have been authorized by the owner, Bart Moore, to produce this re-creation. And you are among the first to be given the opportunity to obtain it.

It's a marvelous work to own ...

Fascinating for its historical significance. Recapturing the first Bowie knife ever made. The knife personally used by one of the greatest

(over)

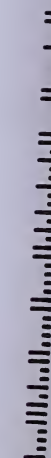
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heroes of the American West -- a man known far and wide for his bravery.

Outstanding for its unique design. It has a long blade, an unusual crossguard to protect the user, a hand-carved grip, a specially designed pommel, and the distinctive markings which identified Jim Bowie's own knife.

Impressive to display. It will be sent in a framed hardwood case you can hang on the wall or display on a desk or table. There's no extra charge for this handsome case, which is fitted with a lock and key.

Rewarding to hand down in the family. It evokes images of the American West and captures the spirit that built our country. And some day, you'll be proud to pass it along to a son or grandson -- just as Elisha Moore passed along the original knife to his.

Jim Bowie died at the Alamo in the service of the land he loved. But the knife he invented has lived on. And this imported replica of the original Bowie knife -- exactly as it looked when it was designed by him -- will itself become an heirloom in your family.

To acquire The Jim Bowie Knife, you need only mail the accompanying order form by November 20, 1986. No advance payment is required. But keep in mind that, because of the amount of hand-crafting involved, it will take time to produce the knife for you.

That's why it's important to place your order as soon as possible. Please let us hear from you by November 20th.

Sincerely,

Stewart Resnick
President

SR:fm